





# MARYLAND COLONIZATION JOURNAL.

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“Nothing is more clearly written in the Book of Destiny, than the Emancipation of the Blacks; and it is equally certain that the two races will never live in a state of equal freedom under the same government, so insurmountable are the barriers which nature, habit and opinion have established between them.”

JEFFERSON.

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## ARRIVAL OF THE LIBERIA PACKET.

THIS vessel returned from her first voyage on the 6 inst, via Cape de Verd Islands. She brought as cabin passengers, from Cape Palmas, Mrs. Russwurm, Child, Servant and Dr. McGill; from Monrovia, the Rev. Mr. Hoyt of the Methodist Mission, Mr. Locke and Lady, Mr. Roye and Mr. Herring; from the Isle of Mayo, Dr. Kane of the U. S. Squadron; as steerage passengers, from Cape Palmas, Messrs. Bolon, Lewey, Jackson and Wilson; sent by the U. S. Consul at Cape de Verd Islands, three sick U. S. Seamen, also by the Commandant of the African Squadron, fourteen Seamen. The Packet performed entirely to the satisfaction of the Master and all on board; she is entirely unrivalled in her speed, having beaten every vessel with which she has had an opportunity of sailing, not even excepting Pilot Boats on the wind.

For information respecting the colony and its prospects we refer the reader to the following statements furnished by Dr. McGill.

*To the Editor of the Col. Journal.*

Our relations with the native tribes in our vicinity are of the most friendly character and our influence with them is fast increasing, as the following incident will show. In September last a Schooner belonging to one of our Colonies was wrecked at Rochbookah, and portions of the cargo was seized upon by the natives as a prize. Upon requisition being made, they returned all the property which had thus been unlawfully taken, and compensated the owner for its full value; receiving for this token of their willingness to conform to our usage, one-half the value of the cargo of the wrecked Schooner as salvage. As far down the coast as Grand Beribey, the boundary of our territorial acquisition, the colonial authorities can exercise jurisdiction, in settling disputes between individuals and tribes. Two claimants for the crown of a territory, situated some thirty miles in the interior, very formally referred their respective claims to Governor Russwurm, determined to abide by his opinion, in either asserting or waiving their claim.

Last year, the influx of Africa produce into the colony from the windward and leeward coast and the interior, more then doubled that of 1845. The Brig

Lemuel of Bristol of 280 tons, trading regularly to the coast procured in November and December, of last year forty-eight thousand gallons of Palm Oil, the largest quantity ever procured from any of the American Colonies by a single trader, the established rule being to procure small quantities at different points. The increasing importance of the Colony of Maryland in Liberia, is evident from the eagerness evinced by English and German Houses to establish a regular trade with the Colony, where they are enabled to procure in the largest quantity and of the best quality, the principle article for which they seek the Western Coast of Africa.

The Colonial Schooner directed to be built in the Colony last year has been completed and launched. She is made entirely of African materials and is one of the best ever built on the coast, combining strength and neatness, with excellent sailing qualities, she is a regular "Baltimore clipper." Mr. Bolon, whom you sent out to construct her, deserves credit for his energy in the prosecution of the work, especially when it is considered that he was part of the time labouring under the influence of the fever and had no one to assist him, at all conversent with the business, excepting Mr. Lewey who went out as caulker.

Agricultural improvements in the colony still receive a large share of attention, but without any hope of the speedy realization of large profit therefrom. Our attention and our labours are still directed to the production of coffee, it being the only article for exportation which can be produced without capital. The ordinary perishable vegetable products of the Colony are abundantly supplied, even more than sufficient for colonial consumption. We have at present about fifteen hundred bearing trees, and have planted over ten thousand; this quantity is small but it must be considered that the plant itself is not indigenous to our part of the coast but has to be brought from Monrovia and elsewhere.

Two Public Schools are conducted in the colony, in the pay and under the supervision of your Agent; two other schools are kept up, one by the Methodist Mission and another by the Protestant Episcopal Mission, all of them being well attended, together, numbering about one hundred and eighty scholars. Every parent and guardian is required to send their children to school, or be subject to a pecuniary fine, the consequence is, that there is scarcely a child in the colony over six years old that cannot read and write, the necessity of this attention to the instruction and cultivation of the juvenile portion of our community, is constantly impressed upon our minds, by the vast preponderance of ignorance among our adult population, who are with few exceptions manumitted slaves or field labourers.

The state of religion and morality in the colony remains the same; we are essentially a church loving people, and if attendance upon the external ordinance of religion may be taken as a criterion, the religious feeling of the community is general. Our courts are held quarterly, in the session held the quarter preceding my leaving the colony there was no cases on the docket and when actions are brought they are generally either those of debt or for personal injuries.

The exertion of the authorities is still directed to the exclusion of ardent spirits from the colony. A single instance has occurred, where an individual colonist lent his assistance in procuring a barrel of rum, which was landed at a "trader's" point twelve miles distant from our colony: he was tried, the fact of purchase and delivery incontestably proved, and he was subject to a fine of one hundred dollars, deprived of his license as a trader, and considered no longer eligible to any office in the colony. Such are the stringent efforts to keep down a vice, which, if once suffered to exist, must prove very detrimental to our interests.

Internal improvement keeps pace with the increase of commerce in the colony. The regular operation of the tariff, furnishing a steady revenue, enables the authorities to commence the various necessary improvements, which hitherto have been neglected from the want of funds.

Private dwelling houses are being erected and enlarged in various portions of the colony. *We have also six or seven small schooners running out of our harbour, whereas in 1843, there was but one;* and Mr. Bolon is under contract for building two others upon his return.

I am sorry to inform you that during last year we have had the misfortune to lose the great portion of the asses with which we were supplied six years since. This is truly a great loss, and it would be conferring upon the colony a great blessing to have the Packet touch at Cape Verd, on her passage out for a further supply, or to agree with the owners of the Trading Company to supply them at a fixed price, they can be procured at St. Jago, for from five to eight dollars, and would be freely purchased in any of the settlements, as many as could be carried down.

We have still in use oxen, but they have been purchased and broken, since the distemper, which proved so very destructive to our colony.

On the passage from Palmas, we touched at Monrovia. The greatest topic of interest there at present, is the recently mooted question of independence. The commissioners of Monrovia and its dependencies are divided in opinion as to the wisdom of this procedure. There is much doubt and confusion. *The fact is, they encounter no opposition to their perfect enjoyment of as great an amount of independence, as they can possibly support.* The prevailing opinion among the more intelligent is, that the declaration of independence at this early period, is premature and uncalled for, and it is certain that upon the meeting of the Convention the majority will oppose the measure. The impression exists in the colony, that the Colonization Society is anxious to throw off the responsibility and support of the colony: whence it emanated, I cannot tell, and in consequence of this impression, there are many now perfectly contented with the mild and liberal patronage of the Colonization Society, who go for independence rather than to be recipients of what they deem the reluctant support of the American Colonization Society. In raising sufficient funds for all the purposes of government, some difficulty might be experienced until the organization of some regular system of taxation, etc; but if necessary, I believe, that *Liberia can and will support herself.*

Vessels belonging to the U. States Squadron on the Coast, touch at Cape Palmas monthly, during the last the U. S. Ship "U. States" and Brig Dolphin, were both then on a cruise to the leeward Coast. Such is the vigilance exercised by the Commanders of the English, American and French cruisers on the Coast, that the Slave Trade is "done up" on that part adjacent to the Liberia Colonies.

At New Sess, a point between Monrovia and Cape Palmas never ceded to either Colony, a single Slave Factory exists, from which they have not been able to ship a single slave for the last two years,—an English vessel of War always remaining directly off this place. The Spanish slaver has been forced to distribute his slaves, twelve hundred in number, among the different Kings, to whom he gives their labour for support. It is rumored that he thinks of delivering them up to the authorities in Liberia, if they will receive them as colonists. This Spaniard now trades in Palm Oil and Camroon only, finding it more profitable than the Slave Trade, under existing difficulties.

## DR. ALEXANDER ON COLONIZATION.—CONTINUED.

In our last two preceding numbers, we gave entire, the Introduction to this work, accompanied with some remarks as to its general character. We now propose commencing an outline, or very slight abridgment of the work itself, giving such extracts, as, we conceive ought to be embodied in a Journal of Colonization, and such as we judge will prove most interesting to our readers; occasionally, taking the liberty of commenting upon what we conceive to be erroneous or liable to misapprehension.

The first Chapter is entitled a "Description of the West Coast of Africa," and treats of the "Face of the country, soil, climate, productions, native tribes, government, native habits," &c. &c. all of which have from time to time, received more extended notice in this Journal. The descriptions are mainly confined to the country and people in the vicinity of Sierra Leone. In speaking of the Kroomen, however, the author remarks, "they are of a dirty black, and their whole appearance is unsightly." This is an error, probably proceeding from some writers confounding the Kroomen, the natives of the Kroo country, with the Fishmen, a tribe pursuing mostly the same calling as the Kroomen, but of materially different physical characteristics. The Kroomen are remarkably well proportioned, stalwart and muscular, with a commanding and dignified port and aspect. This correction may perhaps be considered unimportant, but we feel bound to vindicate our old friends, the Kroomen, who pride themselves so much upon their personal appearance and address, from the charge of *unsightliness*.

Those who believe in the *special* Providence of God, who believe that he causes the wrath of man to praise him, and that he will restrain the remainder of wrath, we conceive, *must* assent to the correctness of Dr. Alexander's views in regard to the slave trade as expressed below; and how can any one entertaining such views, conscientiously oppose Colonization, or look coolly on its struggles, for even a continuing existence? Are not such opposers, the opposers of the Providence of God?

"The atrocities and enormities practised in carrying on this trade need not be here described; the feelings and imagination of the Christian public have been sufficiently excited and harrowed by the most vivid, and sometimes the most exaggerated, descriptions of these cruelties. It has, for a long time, been a favorite theme of pathetic declamation, by which the people have been roused almost to fanatic madness. While all men of sound moral sense must agree in condemning this traffic, the cool and impartial will agree, that Divine Providence has overruled the slavery of the Africans, and their importation to America, so as to render that which in its origin was most unjust and cruel, the occasion of unspeakable good to multitudes of the African race. While, then, we abhor the iniquity of the slave trade, we may piously rejoice that these degraded heathen were brought to our shores, where they have had the opportunity of knowing the Lord Jesus Christ, the only name given under heaven whereby we must be saved. Hundreds and thousands of native Africans and their descendants, have here embraced the gospel of Christ, and found eternal life, for it is the glory of the gospel that it brings redemption and salvation as freely



to the slave in his chains as to the king on his throne; yea it is the very genius of the gospel to bring glad tidings to the poor and distressed, and deliverance to the captives.

But the providence of God, in that remarkable dispensation, by which several millions of the decendants of Africa are found in America, is but partially developed, as yet. The signs of the times at present indicate that there is something still more important hidden in the counsels of Heaven, in regard to this people, than anything which has yet been developed. It may confidently be hoped, that the sons of Africa, now resident in America, will be the honoured instruments of spreading the light of the Gospel through the benighted nations of a whole continent. There is something truly animating and sublime in the idea, that the descendants of those brought here in fetters and manacles shall, not only as freemen, but as Christians, carry back to their father-land the Bible, and the various arts and institutions of the civilized world. The dawn of a glorious day for Africa has already appeared. Several colonies have already been auspiciously commenced on her shores; and the very ground which has for ages been the scene of her degradation and wrongs, is now become the site of flourishing Christian colonies, which, by their religion, their morality, their laws, their order, their agriculture, their trade, and their schools, are attracting the attention of all the surrounding nations, and already producing an effect beyond the expectations of the most sanguine. And at this time the colonies oppose a more effectual barrier to the slave trade, than all the laws and navies of Great Britain and America. Indeed, if these colonies prosper as they have done, and others which are in contemplation should be formed, the disgraceful traffic will be excluded from all that part of Western Africa which lies north of the equator. No event which has occurred in the present generation, seems likely to be attended with more momentous and beneficial effects, than the planting of these colonies on the very verge of the kingdom of darkness; and seldom in any period of the world, have colonies been begun under more auspicious circumstances. Almost the only drawback to uniform prosperity has arisen from the deleterious character of the climate; but it possesses this character solely in relation to the white man. No people appear to enjoy more health than the native; and the coloured people who have gone from this country, after a short season of acclimation, attended with some danger, appear to be as free from disease as when they resided in the United States.

It has added unspeakably to the success and good influence of these infant colonies, that from the commencement, they have been associated with missionary efforts. Thus far the missionary stations have been necessarily within the colonies; and the presence of such devoted, pious men, has had a benign influence on the emigrants. The prejudice which has been industriously excited among the colored people of this country, against African colonization, though widely spread, has thus far been overruled for good. The greatest danger to be apprehended in this whole business, is that the colonists might be disposed to assume the reins of self-government, before they are properly prepared for it. If the colonization scheme had been popular among the free people of colour, the colonies would have filled up too rapidly, and there could not have been so good a selection of emigrants, as it has been in the power of the American Colonization Society to make. The colonies in the meantime are growing in stability, and acquiring, every day, more and more that experience in self-government, which is so important to their prosperity; and as the accession

to their numbers is not great, at any one time, the new emigrants naturally fall into the spirit of the Society, and under the regular operation of the laws established: so that they can be incorporated into the body politic without any inconvenience, just as the materials for the growth of the natural body are without pain or commotion, assimilated to the parts before existing. Even the recaptured pagan slaves have, under these favorable circumstances, made progress in improvement which has astonished all who witnessed it. The growth of the colonies has been less rapid, than if multitudes had desired to avail themselves of the advantages of the plan: but this very slowness of growth has been for its health, and perhaps for its salvation."

The same view is also taken of the action of the abolitionists upon this subject; their opposition the author conceives, has also been permitted and overruled for good to the colonization scheme, and the colonies themselves.

"The virulent opposition of the abolitionists, so unreasonable and unexpected, has also been overruled for the benefit of the colonization scheme. When it was first proposed to plant a colony of free colored people on the coast of Africa, with their own consent, no one seemed to dream of any objection, unless it should come from a certain class of slave holders; and for years no opposition was made, and the cause languished. Legislatures and ecclesiastical synods and conventions, passed resolutions approbatory of the scheme; and there it rested. The public mind was not sufficiently excited to take much interest in the Society; and its important bearings were unheeded. The violent action of the abolitionists, roused the public attention; led to a careful examination of the principles of the Society, and the important prospects which were open before it: and although the opposition swept off many of the former friends of colonization, yet the cause never prospered so much as since it was attacked and calumniated as the compound of almost all evil. None but a mind distorted by fanaticism could ever have discovered any point of collision between an abolition and colonization society. In fact they aimed at entirely different objects: the one seeking a more favorable situation for as many of the free people of colour as might be disposed to leave this country, with the hope of bettering their circumstances. With slavery, as a society, they had nothing to do: whereas the abolitionists aimed simply at the removal of slavery, and of course free people of any colour, were not the objects of their efforts. But though this is the theory, yet in fact, no two societies have ever existed, in a more hostile attitude to each other; and even slavery itself does not appear to call forth more indignant hatred, than the inoffensive, simple plan of finding a home in Africa, for a certain number of free people of colour, who did not feel themselves comfortably situated in this country. But as the opposition has made new friends for the Colonization Society; so it has increased the zeal and activity of its old friends, many degrees. The prospects of ultimate and great success, have never been so flattering as at present. The plan of planting separate colonies by State societies promises much good: the evil apprehended from a want of capacity for self-government, will by this means be greatly diminished; and no doubt, in good time, all danger of collision between these separate colonies will be prevented by a wise system of confederation, which has already been proposed by the mother society; but for which the infant colonies are not yet ripe. It will be good policy to maintain the connexion of the respective colonies with the societies in this country, which planted them, as long as it can possibly be done. The moment when this connexion is severed will be critical in the history of Liberia."



Of this "*critical*" period we have no fears. The colonists from the beginning, have proved themselves equal to any emergency.

The "Origin of the Colony of Sierra Leone," constitutes the subject of the second Chapter, opening with a severe and well merited reproof of British philanthropy which so "*vaunteth itself.*"

"In 1787 a number of gentlemen subscribed a few thousand pounds as a fund for assisting some destitute blacks, then in London, to settle at Sierra Leone. These were among the slaves who had taken refuge in the British army, during the war of the American revolution: and who on the return of the troops accompanied them to England. The question may very naturally arise, why were they not encouraged to remain in London, or to seek a settlement in some other part of the country? This question is peculiarly pertinent at this time, when the British public, or a large portion of them can see no good reason for the existence of the American Colonization Society; and cannot understand why the free people of colour cannot be permitted peaceably to remain where they are. The fact, that when only a few hundred of these people were carried to London, under a strong pledge that they should be provided for, they fell into such a miserable condition that men of a benevolent character felt themselves imperiously called upon to contrive a plan for colonizing them in Africa, is a sufficient answer to all objections to African colonization. The English set us the example of seeking a residence for the descendants of Africa on the coast of that land from which their forefathers were forcibly and wickedly carried away. This colony had been fondly cherished by British Christians, and fostered and protected by the government; and when Americans, influenced by the same motives, have engaged in colonizing the same kind of people, on the same coast, why is the enterprise viewed with suspicion, or calumniated as the fruit of unworthy motives, as it is in most of the religious periodicals of Great Britain?

"Some of the most distinguished philanthropists of the age were among the projectors of this colonization scheme, and became directors of the company. It will be sufficient barely to mention the names of such men as Granville Sharp, William Wilberforce, Henry Thornton, Joseph Hardcastle, and Thomas Clarkson. The motives by which these men were actuated, are above suspicion, and of the most benevolent kind; and we unhesitatingly ascribe motives of the same kind to the founders of the American Colonization Society. In neither case was there any room for any sinister motives to operate; and we have reason to think, that the suggestion was from heaven, and that this enterprise will to posterity appear to have been one of the most important, as well as the most benevolent, conceived in the present age. The pure and elevated motives which led these excellent men to engage in the scheme, stamp an importance upon it, which would by no means belong to it, if it had originated in the usual motives which lead to such transactions."

As stated in the commencement of this chapter, the society or association for founding the colony of Sierra Leone, was formed in 1787, and the settlement made, we believe, during the same year. The early management of the whole business of founding the Sierra Leone colony, it seems to us, was the worst possible. Out of 460 poor emigrants who embarked from London, before the very eyes of these philanthropists, who feel called upon to denounce the American Colonization Society, *eighty-four died on shipboard from being confined in too close quarters.* That is the way in which the

English disposed of their free coloured people. In addition to these London exiles, there were sent from Halifax, Nova Scotia, eleven hundred and ninety-six more, of whom sixty-five died on the passage. With such terrible management and results in shipping the emigrants, we could not but expect worse in the direction of affairs in the colony, but of this we will not speak. It worked its way along, with various calamities, among which, one was a capture and burning by the French in 1794. In 1800, the British Government sent the Maroons there from Jamaica. The result of the company's action and existence is thus given.

"In 1803 it was suggested to the company by the ministry, that it would be for the benefit of the colony to transfer the civil and military power from the company to the government. The cession was accordingly made, and the colony is now under the authority of a governor who resides at Sierra Leone, appointed by, and amenable to the British government. Upon giving up the colony, the directors of the company published a statement, which demonstrated the success of the company, in the attainment of its most important objects; and was calculated to convince every proprietor that his money had been expended to a noble purpose. The following is the substance of the above mentioned statement.

"However great may have been the company's loss in a pecuniary view, the directors are unwilling to admit, that there has been a total failure in their main object, or that their capital has been expended without effect. It must afford satisfaction to reflect, that the company should both have conceived and attempted to execute those plans of beneficence which led to the institution of the colony; and that they should have continued to pursue them for so many years, in the face of opposition, disappointment, and loss; in spite of severe calamities, arising from European as well as African wars, and much turbulence on the part of the colonists. The proprietors have the further satisfaction of knowing, that the company have contributed to the abolition of the slave trade, by exposing its real nature before the view of a hesitating legislature, and detecting the artifices and misrepresentation by which the persons engaged in it laboured to delude the public.

"The company have communicated the benefits flowing from a knowledge of letters, and from Christian instruction, to hundreds of negroes on the coast of Africa; and, by a careful education in this country, they have elevated the character of several of the children of African chiefs, and directed their minds to objects of the very first importance to their countrymen. They have ascertained that the cultivation of every valuable article of tropical export may be carried on in Africa; that Africans in a state of freedom are susceptible of the same motives to industry and laborious exertion which influence the natives of Europe; and that some African chiefs are sufficiently enlightened to comprehend, and sufficiently patriotic to encourage schemes of improvement. They have demonstrated that negroes may be governed by the same mild laws, which are found consistent with the maintenance of rational liberty even in this kingdom; and that they may be safely and advantageously entrusted with the administration of those laws, not only as jurors, but even as judicial assessors. They have in some measure retrieved the credit of the British, it may be added, of the Christian name, on the continent of Africa; and have convinced its inhabitants, that there are Englishmen who are actuated by very different motives from those of self-interest, and who desire nothing so much as their improvement and happiness. To conclude, they have established in a central part of Africa, a colony, which appears to be now provided with adequate means both of defence and subsistence; which by the blessing of

Providence, may become an emporium of commerce, a school of industry, and a source of knowledge, civilization, and religious improvement to the inhabitants of that continent; and which may hereafter repay to Great Britain, the benefits she shall have communicated, by opening a continually increasing market for those manufactures, which are now no longer secure of their accustomed vent on the continent of Europe."

This chapter closes with the following brief notice of CAPT. PAUL CUFFEE, who was in fact the *leading* American colonizationist.

"The settlement of a colony on the continent of Africa attracted the attention of some of the people of colour in the United States. At that time there sailed from the ports of Massachusetts a very remarkable man of colour, by the name of Paul Cuffee. This man was born at New Bedford, Massachusetts, in 1759, of an American father and an aboriginal mother. His early years were spent in poverty and obscurity, but possessing a vigorous mind, by industry and perseverance, guided by practical good sense, he rose to wealth and respectability. He was largely engaged in navigation, and in many voyages to foreign countries commanded his own vessel. His desire to raise his coloured brethren in this country to civil and religious liberty in the land of their forefathers, induced him to offer some of the free people of colour a passage to the western coast of Africa. About forty embarked with him at Boston, and landed at Sierra Leone, where they were kindly received. Only eight of these were able to pay their passage: the whole expense of the remainder, amounting to nearly \$4,000, was defrayed by the noble-minded Paul Cuffee.

"If Captain Cuffee had lived to see the commencement of the colony of Liberia, no man in America would have more rejoiced in the prospect of seeing a place provided for the free people of colour where they could enjoy the real blessings of liberty and independence. With the friends of African colonization this man's name should be held in high estimation; as being the first man who actually conducted emigrants from the United States to the coast of Africa; and that too at expense of his own funds greater than any other individual has ever laid out, in transporting colonists to that country."

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We promised to continue Friend Russell's article on Liberia, so here follows his second No. We trust our readers will not, as usual, consider us personally responsible for his sentiments; we publish the article in part, as a literary curiosity. We have often been asked, (too often for our comfort) to give a description of the products of Liberia, well, here's one that cannot fail to *satisfy* the most pragmatic querist.

(From the Liberia Herald.)

MESSRS. EDITORS:—In a former letter, we tried to say something of our colony. How often too do we find emigrants, who think because they "*are free*," they should *work no more*, and when convinced by pinching want, that God does not rain bread upon the idle in Africa, more than in America, long for the chain of the slave, or had as live have it as though they could only thrive at that point, where the temperature of industry, has its degrees told by the "Cowskin." Too ignorant and degraded though raised in a land of bibles, to know the difference between working for one's self and laboring for a white master. Seeming to drown every sense of honor, "*in them are big pones or corn bred and fat meat old mars or mis use to ge us*. Thank God, those who are too idle to work, and too stupid to change these opinions

soon become nuisance, and go the way of all trash. The well bred man of good sense, though he may not know the first letter in the alphabet, soon sees (no matter what his opinions might have been) that his labour is his own, and resolves to maintain himself and enjoy liberty too. Others though illiterate [as most of us are] take wide views, looks upon his neighbour as well as himself, and thence upon the country at large, as though nature had stamped his heart with public spirit, as well as self love. They not only see that all their labour is their own, every improvement belongs to themselves and children, good sound sense and industry tells them to go forward, and they obey, looking upon Liberia as theirs, and the home of their children. Its strength their safety, its wealth their property, and its prosperity their glory and the salvation, from degradation of their children. Such men as these though they cannot read a word and perhaps never thought of writing and perhaps spent much of their time in slavery, are an honor to any country, that would allow them equality. There are some of this stamp in Liberia, men "worth their weights in gold." They are industrious men who look forward, who love their children. Such men are not only good citizens, but patriotic colonists. One thousand of them would make the soil and the ship declare Liberia independent *without a human declaration*. As the hope of Liberia's glory, present as well as future glory rising before such men it beckons them onward. They enjoy "freedom" in every true sense of that word. They love our laws, because they are wholesome, they are ours made by legislators of our choice. They love liberty for what it is in and of itself.

Free from that oppression worse if possible than that of Israel in Egypt under which he once groaned, the industrious public spirited man seizes and holds fast the hope of elevating not only his own, but the name and character of his country. With life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness with and before him, with a right view of these things, what can hinder this colony from prospering? Or such men from being freemen. It is a startling truth, unless it has become "a new thing under the sun," that there is not a free blackman from Georgia to Maine. No, nor in the whole United States! Nor will there be very soon, if we must judge from "the signs of the times." "The Gospel was to free the slave of the United States," but we are told that "slavery is becoming a baptised child of holy scriptures," "strengthening and tightening her chains," listening not for one moment to the Abolitionists *jargon of amalgamation* and of *Negro equality*, the only two hopes of the blackman ever becoming a freeman in the United States. The Abolitionists after all their talk, are sitting as strong guards to keep those two hopes from being realized as the veriest slaveholder of the southern states. So we believe.

What number of the so called free states [for that we don't know] has made them equal in every point short of which they are not on equality, not equally free, what Abolitionists has carried out his principle or showed his declaration [that he has no respect of color] to be true, giving his daughter to a negro husband, his son to a negro wife? emminating his grand children, showing example as well as precept to the slave states.

A real unprejudiced white man we have yet to look upon, unless it may be the Hon. Mr. Gray, who followed a colored woman and her children to Liberia, married her and lived and died happy. There are those who plaster the poor ignorant colored man's eyes with the *empty name of liberty*. Stretch out artificial rainbows and set the negro to running after the philosophers stone. *Liberty* which they say is at the end of it which "bow" they move as fast as he runs, still feeding the poor black with such sickly talk as freedom in America, "a sounding brass" in the hands of an enemy.

We are glad that we are able to say, that there are a *few hundred freemen*

*in Liberia.* If in the eyes of any man our constitutional connexion, with a great if not the greatest philanthropic society that ever lived, makes us not a free people, a word can alter that. Liberia has the power to ask the power to receive, or take the Col. Society, the will to sever any union that would degrade us, at any moment. A constitution continually lays before us that if we are not now and we feel we are and see we are, we can adopt and be a people. Jehovah, gave Africa to the colored race, God planted and will water and cause to thrive this "sweet home" of the colored man, and he will do it, despite the sheep skin covering of its enemies. First the emigration of free, secondly the gradual emancipation of the slave, black man, thirdly the union of African Tribes with Liberia, now becoming so general a desire among our natives some of whom have made application and become in part united already, and by our own children, goodly numbers of whom to our everlasting delight, gambol in our streets, fill our schools and assist us at our work, all of whom are as free as the air they breathe, never saw the chain, and as much as they are learning, cannot learn or understand the words *slave* or *slavery*.

"Slaves cannot breathe" in Liberia,

"If they touch our coast their shackles

Fall," and fall for ever. Liberia will live for ever.

Opposite the new settlement Virginia on the East side of the St. Pauls is Caldwell, extending several miles up the St. Pauls what is called Lower Caldwell is the township. Upper Caldwell is that part extending along the banks of the river upward in ten acre farm lots, laying side by side parallel with the banks of the river. We left the canoe at lower Caldwell and walked along the clean street to Upper Caldwell. It is not so populous by one-third as it was twelve years ago, from various reasons, death and removal, the chief. Several persons have made Caldwell an unhealthy place and if it is Millsburg, New Georgia, Monrovia are all unhealthy because people die, mortality at Caldwell has however been handed out to the world as originating from the "swamp" with which it is infested by effluvia, &c. &c. This we have always thought a mistake, made from want of experience or knowledge of the place. As we have had the honor of living at both Lower and Upper Caldwell for several years, and sincerely love to look around us. We will also give our opinion in this matter, with some little experience to help us.

From Lower to Upper Caldwell the land is not low, the river presents on both sides a beautiful elevated bank, which gradually rises for some hundreds of yards back, and then presents a plain surface. There are but few not very extensive swamps and they are not very near the river, being two, three and four miles off, excepting it may be a small pond of water, and one or two spots hardly large enough for potato patches in the dry season. In the rear of Caldwell are extensive prairies or "Old Fields" of high grass, the soil of which is a rich black sandy mould, never looked upon as unhealthy and if rotten grass be inclined to make them so, these fields are burned off every year by natives, lightning, or some such course, and effluvia from rotten grass is thus put out of the question. Unfortunately for the inhabitants of Caldwell, Millsburg and New Georgia, their first settlers or the great mass of them from some droll cause "working by sight" on the "bird in hand principle" turned their attention to sawing plank and getting timber, instead of tilling the soil which seemed to be looked upon as a kind of contemptible employment in those days, fit only for "a native" from whom they purchased all their bread, and vegetables, meat too, except American provisions, and thus became in one sense, the servants of those they thought so low, for the

*natives* carried off the funds of their labor, in exchange for rice, cassado, plantains, bananas, poultry, venison, &c. &c. We think that Mr. N. Dosia, informed us, that upon seeing all his labor carried off by a few contemptible American cassava planters and the *natives*, he was one of the first few sawyers who resolved degrading or not, not to be so beholding to others for bread, and broke a while from the saw each season and planted their little cassado patches which helped "a masingly" and brought as much money as timber, one after another by degrees adopted the same plan, but to a very limited extent.

This timber business is what has to some great extent crippled Caldwell, Millsburg, New Georgia. Men hardly acclimated and born in another country reared up healthy farmers, were in those days in both seasons in the woods, exposed to the sun in the dry and to the continual pouring of the rain in the wet season, two, three, four and often six and seven miles from home, where ever they could find a swamp or creek, sawing all day, month after month, in water very often waist deep, and floating logs, sleeping night after night in their same wet apparel, as though God designed men to become fish, or even amphibious animals, lifting logs and carrying for miles horse loads of plank and timber on their heads and backs, thus breaking their constitutions, bringing on a pleurisy, consumption, perhaps sleepy disease, plunging themselves into untimely graves, not living out half their days. It would be no wonder to me had all who followed it died. We have known but few deaths in these places but could be traced back to the causes alone mentioned. And this sawing in the rains, is still carried on by a few who little as they think it, are finding a speedy grave. If men will saw, let them do it in the dry season out of the mud—when it is too dry to plant and let them saw in the shade, it may then be a healthy employment. Most of the few that never followed sawing are living and doing well this day, one proof of what we have been saying. Thank God the people of these colonies and of these towns above mentioned, have seen their evil, many of them when too far gone have lamented it, and have turned their attention to one of the two things needful, the cultivation of the soil. Though it is to be lamented that beside our merchant farmers of Monrovia, so few in the Messurado county, look at all beyond the present gain arising from cassado, potatoes and a few other vegetables, leaving coffee, arrow-root, sugar cane, cayenne pepper, ginger, &c. &c., out of the question, making too little provision for their children by profitable example. We must say in honor to Upper Caldwell, that it has one or two farmers who are so far as they do go, go-a-head men, and for several years in one season of the year, has feed for the money almost one twentieth of Montserrada county. Lower Caldwell too has one or two pretty go-a-head planters, who prove that the "hand of the diligent maketh rich" and if two men can thus do what might not fifty such accomplish. It would be good for Liberia especially if they raised such things as were fit for exportation, and which ships plow the deep, to convey from other lands, and they can do it. It would be good, if every merchant was a farmer also, every carpenter, blacksmith, rock-mason, doctor, lawyer, preacher, the (Governor himself is now,) all should add to their professions and some are trying the *word farmer* or rather the business of farming. We know that a few fools look upon this as a contemptible business and so do they every thing else, but running in the country with a bar or two of tobacco, growing very famous in that kind of honor, that debts bring upon their high personage. For we do not believe there is a respectable factor in Liberia, who does not begin to feel that it would be no dishonor to lay hand on the soil also and how to treat respectable men that distinguish themselves at the business, as the pillars of Liberia.

A. F. RUSSELL.

Golah, Sept. 8th, 1846.

We here commence, as is our custom, a running extract of what we find in the *Liberia Herald* under the head of local news, editorials, &c. Our readers will thereby have an opportunity of judging more correctly how things go on in this *mimic* republic. We are in the meantime aware that we run some little risk of injuring the colony by the loss of Editor Teage, for there is that kind of point and pith in some of his *off-handers*, that is much in demand on this side the Atlantic. But bear in mind, *politicianers*, that Teage is a *rather dark* man, and would not answer for your latitude.

THE AFRICANS BY THE "PONS."—These people, or a large portion of them are becoming of value to their guardians—those remaining in the colony, show no disposition, now to wander off. They seem perfectly satisfied with their circumstances; and we find no great difficulty in accustoming them to our habits. Those of them living in Grand Bassa, have proved to be very serviceable. The Fishermen living at the cove, who have for a number of years, been disturbing the quietness of our people by their threats and robberies, have in those people, found a formidable enemy. A gentleman at that place writes. "Our Congoes have really turned out manly; they have thrown more dread upon the Fishermen, (our former antagonists) and the surrounding tribes, than I have ever known exerted upon them before:—had I time I would give you in detail the recent misunderstanding, the Fishermen and our Congoes had, which of course involved us; and which for a couple of weeks threatened a war. The Congoes went down to Fishtown and forcibly arrested the thief, a Fisherman, and after giving him a good beating, took his cloth and a cutlass—and it was pretty difficult for us to prevent them from going down to set fire to Fishtown;—but all is now amicably settled."

We have very little sympathy for those Fishermen,—they have on several occasions, showed themselves hostile to the colony, and they violate whenever it suits their convenience, their pacific relations with us. We have the means to chastise them,—but it is our standing policy, never to engage in a war, if we can possibly avoid it.

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INUNDATION.—It is with pain that we have to record the distressing situation of the people at the settlement at Sinoe, called "Readsville." This settlement is composed entirely of persons who have given all their time to the cultivation of the soil;—and but for the inundation which occurred there in October last; the people of that settlement would *now* be in independent circumstances. We hope that the benevolent of our community will extend to our suffering fellow citizens, some timely assistance—their condition is certainly an alarming one. Richard E. Murray, Esq: Superintendent of public affairs at that place, under date 15th October, writes. Public business had called the major part of the male inhabitants to Greenville,—some of them started early for home, others remained till evening when it commenced raining, which compelled them to remain till next morning, when they started for their homes;—the river had swollen much and they were fearful of meeting with some accident; these fears were fully realized, for on approaching one of the points of the river, such was the force of the water, that it capsized one of the canoes, with three men, they were nearly drowned—the other canoe being near them, came to their assistance. This was the beginning of sorrows; when they arrived at the farms, they found the river overflowing its banks—it continued to rise all day. Sunday about half past 12 o' clock P. M., Mr. Delany told me that a native of Blue Barre had brought him intelligence that the swamps back of the farms had filled



and met the river, producing a complete inundation. Alarmed for the safety of the people, we despatched two canoes with six of the settlers, when they arrived at the farms the scene that presented itself to their view, was truly distressing—from one end of the settlement to the other, the land was covered, the houses though pretty high from the ground, were flooded—the inmates of some were obliged to leave the lower floor, and take to the lofts, in some houses, the water was nineteen inches above the lower floor—in some instances, they were obliged to make fire on their beds. Three houses only escaped; they were quite high from the ground, the others were under water till late Sunday night, when it began to subside. Every thing like bread stuff is ruined, the loss in potatoes and cassadas, is estimated at nine hundred bushels. The people were just recovering from the effects of last year's freshet. Famine stares us in the face, it is impossible for us to support them, till they can raise another crop. A little assistance would be of great benefit to us, and we urgently desire that a few articles be sent us, to enable us to procure the necessary supplies for these unfortunate sufferers. That settlement will have to be broken up—the oldest natives declare that it will be washed away. Next week, if the weather will permit, I will look out for a site for a new settlement."

Oct. 16th. "The river still overflows the bank—the natives say it happens every thirty years; it is now thirty years since its last occurrence.

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THE FIRST OF DECEMBER.—As usual this day was celebrated. The firing of cannon and other exhilarating exhibitions of rejoicing, were with becoming decorum, performed. At 11 of the clock, the volunteer companies, formed in front of the Government house to receive, and escort his Excellency the Governor, and other civil officers to the Baptist Church, to hear an address. The Church was crowded to overflowing—all classes *vie* with each other, in their observance of this day. Hiliary Teage, Esq. was the orator of the day—he delivered a very interesting and beautiful address—it was listened to with profound attention, and the occasional bursts of applause, which resounded through the Church, and whose echo went far away, clearly intimated that the theme of the address was one, that suited the feelings of the people. It is hoped that Mr. Teage will permit his address to appear in the "Herald," or such portions of it, as may seem to him desirable. At 3 of the clock a large number of gentlemen enjoyed themselves at a sumptuous dinner, at Judge Brander's—and hundreds of both sexes passed off the afternoon in gleeful exercises on the sea beach.

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### OUR AFFAIRS.

The colonial Legislature meets on the first Monday in the ensuing month—January. Matters of the greatest moment to us—matters which cannot fail to affect us deeply for good or evil—to establish our character as a public spirited, enterprising and progressing people or brand us as a timid, dependant and grovelling community will come up for discussion and determination. Hence, the ensuing session is looked forward to with the most intense anxiety by all classes of people. Considerable anxiety is felt by many in regard to the course, which rumor says, the members from the lower counties will pursue. Rumor says, they intend to maintain the position which they took, and so strongly and strenuously defended in the session of last July. We know nothing of the views of these gentlemen, except through the uncertain channel of rumor, as we are not honored with a place among their correspondents, yet we are unwilling to believe, that

on change has come "over their dreams," that they will still refuse to vote for a *new* and distinct organization,—that they will still hold out their leading strings, and endeavour to hang an unwelcome load on the hands of the Colonization Society, when that Society has given indications so unequivocal of a desire to be relieved of them. We are unwilling to believe that those gentlemen, in all the time which has elapsed since the last session have not been able to separate the question now everywhere mooted from all that is extraneous and foreign from it, and to look at "Sovereignty," naked and alone, wholly distinct and discovered from those circumstances, which, although usually found to attend it in established and full grown communities, enter nevertheless not in the least degree, into its character and integrity.

In the discussion of practical questions, which may be supposed to affect the interest of more parties than one, great difference is undoubtedly due to established maxims and usages. These are indispensable to the peace and repose of nations. They regulate their intercourse—define their privileges and in litigated cases form a standard of appeal: but in determining cases of a purely abstract character, there is danger, by an exclusive regard to them of being conducted to an erroneous conclusion. Into this error, our highly respected opponents in our humble opinion have been betrayed, and it is with us an earnest hope, that their mind may be freed from its influence when they shall meet in legislative capacity in January.

Indeed there is no alternative. "The Rubicon is passed." To falter and hesitate, now can serve only to display a child-like imbecility on the part of the colony, while at the same time, that it must greatly embarrass the Colonization Society. That Society has dissolved the connexion—re-organized itself to meet expected re-organization on our part, and invited us to take up a position to which from our previous boasting and swaggering, it was supposed, we would rush with all the ardor of a proud and enthusiastic patriotism. Although, we are aware, that opposition by the members from the lower counties, cannot arrest the progress of things, or defeat the consummation of the measure, yet we are not willing to close our eyes against the evils and inconveniences, which will assuredly attend continued opposition. A transition state, is always a critical state, and demands more than all other states, unanimity and concord. If in addition to the dangers which evermore attend that state, there be one, which threaten the disintegration of the members of the community, that difficulty cannot be looked upon by the most careless, but with the deepest solicitude. But, we feel confident, that these dangers so threatening in the distance, will vanish before the face of free and dispassionate discussion,—that if those, who are called to determine the question, will but open their minds to truth, and their ears to reason, and not suffer the pride of opinion to usurp the throne of judgment, it will be determined in a way honorable to Liberia, and satisfactory to its friends abroad. Let our Legislators therefore look well to this matter. The fate of the Colony—awful responsibility! depends upon their decision, the record of their vote, will be the bright register of an honorable name or the gloomy imprint of a melancholy epitaph; and let them further remember, that their action in this case, will for mental ability and political sagacity decide their character in the estimation of the present and of the coming generation.

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Our harbour a few days ago, presented a lively and busy scene. There were at one time, six Vessels of war at anchor,—three American including the Flag Ship,—two English, and one French. They have, *jam* nigh, exhausted our stock of fresh provisions.

## BARBARIC POMP.

A grand affair has lately gone off somewhere in the vicinity of Toembo. The mother of Will Buckler, a chief of some note in that region, died last June. She had been lying in state from that time until about ten days ago, and while she was thus lying, preparations were making to give her a sepulture befitting her character and her son's dignity. The time for the burial arrived, and all the country was invited to the *play*. There was in consequence a total cessation of trade to the great annoyance of Palm Oil buyers. Of course, the occasion demanded a great feast, which, it is but reasonable to suppose, was much more than the interment the great attracting influence. The body enclosed in a rude chest, was taken from its place of six months repose, and laid in the path leading to the grave, where it lay four days previous to interment. During this time, the assembled multitudes occupied their time in dancing by night, and sleeping by day, and in minor feasting on such things as chance threw in their way. The *big dinner* given by Mr. Buckler, was kept back until the day of interment. Great preparations were made for the feast. For the solid part, there were fifty bullocks, and numberless small things, such as goats and sheep, and for the liquid, oceans of Palm wine and Jamaica, of which the guests were permitted to drink *ad libitum*. He is a great man, that Will Buckler.

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(For the Liberia Herald.)

## MESSRS. EDITORS:

*Horrid murder at Sinoe.*—As the Rev. James H. Stevens, formerly a member of the Liberia Annual Conference of the M. E. Church, was sitting in his residence at Sinoe, on the evening of the 10th inst., he was shot by some person from without. Deliberate aim was taken by the murderer, as his victim received the contents of the gun in his head, and right shoulder. A young lady, who resided in the family, was also severely wounded by the same discharge. Mr. S. lingered until the 14th, when he died, leaving good evidence, that he was supported in this most dreadful affliction by the Lord his Saviour, in whom he had a firm trust.

The supposed murderer has been arrested, and is now in chains awaiting his trial; but I forbear giving the name of the suspected person, until more definite evidence is received than vague reports.

Yours,

W. B. H.

(Extracts to be continued.)

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 THE LIBERIA PACKET.

We regret to inform our readers that in consequence of want of Emigrants and freight the second voyage of this vessel will be deferred some three months; but let it not be inferred from this, that there is any intention of a further suspension of the legitimate operations. It is hardly possible that the like delay will again occur. In the mean time she will make a trip to Havre and back direct to this port.

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 TERMS.

This Journal is published Monthly, and is furnished to Subscribers at \$1 per year, whether sent by mail or otherwise. All profits arising from its publication are applied to advance the general purposes of the society.

☞ All Communications intended for the Maryland Colonization Journal, or on business of the Society, should be addressed to Dr. JAMES HALL, General Agent, Colonization Rooms, Post Office Building.



